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09/871,194	05/31/2001	Shiro Miyagi	SONYJP 3.0-175	9887

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EXAMINER

YE, LIN

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2615

DATE MAILED: 10/13/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 09/871,194	Applicant(s) MIYAGI ET AL.	
	Examiner Lin Ye	Art Unit 2615	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
 - If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
 - If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
 - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 31 May 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-22 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-22 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 31 May 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>10/19/01</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claims 1-5, 12-16 and 18-22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Watanabe et al. U.S. Patent 6,642,958.

Referring to claim 1, the Watanabe ('958) reference discloses in Figures 1 and 6-7, an image data communication system, comprising: an image display apparatus (the computer 3 includes a display 7 in Figure 1, or 22, 24 and 26 in Figure 5) having a capability of displaying an image consisting of no more than a maximum amount of image data (e.g., the Watanabe reference shows a example: the display 7 has resolution: 320x240 pixels and amount of information of one pixel: 8bits, monochrome; and this means of the maximum amount of image data = $320 \times 240 \times 8 = 614400$ bits can be displayed on the display 7; see Col. 10, lines 46-54); and an image pickup apparatus (image pickup unit 1, see Col. 10, lines 58-63) operable to capture an image as an image signal (the image pickup unit 1 has resolution 640x480 pixels and amount of information of one pixel: color , 8bits for each colors R,G and B, 24 bits in all; this means the total amount of image data captured by image pickup unit =

Art Unit: 2615

640x480x24=7372800 bits which is larger than the maximum amount of image data can be displayed on the display 7), to convert said image signal to a selected amount of image data, said selected amount of image data being no greater than said maximum amount of image data, and to output said selected amount of image data to said image display apparatus (e.g., see Figure 6, from steps s53-s54, the DSP 13 in camera unit 1 performs a processing to reduced to one half of pixel number for the image signal and only the data of color G 8bits of the picked-up image signal is sent to the display device 7 for matching to the amount of information that can be displayed by the display device 7, See Col. 11, lines 12-29).

Referring to claim 2, the Watanabe reference discloses further comprising a recording medium (FIFO memory 14 in Figure 2, see Col. 9, lines 30-31) for recording said image signal.

Referring to claim 3, the Watanabe reference discloses wherein said image pickup apparatus is operable to convert said image signal to said selected amount of image data and to record said selected amount of image data on a recording medium (as shown in Figure 2, the DSP 13 convert the image signal to the selected amount of image data and record the data on the FIFO memory 14).

Referring to claim 4, the Watanabe reference discloses wherein said image display apparatus is a portable terminal (22, 24 and 26 includes terminals 23, 25 and 27, see Col. 1, lines 30-32) capable of displaying an image as shown in Figure 7.

Referring to claim 5, the Watanabe reference discloses wherein said image pickup apparatus uses a subtractive color process (only selecting the data of color G for

Art Unit: 2615

display device 7, see Col. 11, lines 25-30) to convert said image signal to said selected amount of image data.

Referring to claim 12, the Watanabe reference discloses wherein comprising a communication apparatus (I/F #1 in Figure 1) connected to said image pickup apparatus (camera unit 1), wherein said selected amount of image data is output from said image pickup apparatus to said image display apparatus (display 7) via said communication apparatus.

Referring to claim 13, the Watanabe reference discloses wherein said image pickup apparatus includes a communication apparatus (camera I/F 18 provided for external connection), and said selected amount of image data is output from said image pickup apparatus (e.g., the selected amount of image data is output from DSP 13 in the camera unit 1 to match the maximum amount of image data can be displayed by the display 7) to said image display apparatus via said communication apparatus (18).

Referring to claim 14, the Watanabe reference discloses wherein said image display apparatus (computer 3 has display 7) includes a communication apparatus (I/F #1 interface 5), said image display apparatus receiving said selected amount of image data from said image pickup apparatus via said communication apparatus.

Referring to claim 15, the Watanabe reference discloses a method for sending image data from an image pickup apparatus in Figures 1-2 and 6-7 to an image display apparatus having a capability of displaying an image consisting of no more than a maximum amount of image data (e.g., the Watanabe reference shows a example: the display 7 has resolution: 320x240 pixels and amount of information of

Art Unit: 2615

one pixel: 8bits, monochrome; and this means of the maximum amount of image data = $320 \times 240 \times 8 = 614400$ bits can be displayed on the display 7; see Col. 10, lines 46-54), said method comprising: (camera unit 1) capturing an image as an image signal in said image pickup apparatus (the camera unit 1 has resolution 640×480 pixels and amount of information of one pixel: color, 8bits for each colors R, G and B, 24 bits in all; this means the total amount of image data captured by image pickup unit = $640 \times 480 \times 24 = 7372800$ bits which is larger than the maximum amount of image data can be displayed on the display 7); converting said image signal to a selected amount of image data, said selected amount of image data having no greater than said maximum amount of image data; transmitting said selected amount of image data to said image display apparatus (e.g., see Figure 6, from steps s53-s54, the DSP 13 in camera unit 1 performs a processing to reduced to one half of pixel number for the image signal and only the data of color G 8bits of the picked-up image signal is sent to the display device 7 for matching to the amount of information that can be displayed by the display device 7, See Col. 11, lines 12-29); and receiving said selected amount of image data and displaying said selected amount of image data as an image on said image display apparatus (See Col. 11, lines 5-29).

Referring to claim 16, the Watanabe reference discloses wherein said converting step converts said image signal to said selected amount of image data using a subtractive color process (e.g., only selecting the data of color G for display device 7, see Col. 11, lines 25-30).

Referring to claim 18, the Watanabe reference discloses in Figures 1 and 6-7, an image pickup apparatus, comprising: an image pickup device (camera unit 1, See Col.

6, lines 37-52) operable to capture an image as an image signal; an image data processing unit (DSP 13) operable to convert said image signal to a selected amount of image data (e.g., see Figure 6, from steps s53-s54, the DSP 13 in camera unit 1 performs a processing to reduced to one half of pixel number for the image signal and only the data of color G 8bits of the picked-up image signal is sent to the display device 7 for matching to the amount of information that can be displayed by the display device 7, See Col. 11, lines 12-29); and an output unit operable to output said selected amount of image data (See Col. 11, lines 5-30).

Referring to claim 19, the Watanabe reference discloses a communication apparatus (camera I/F 18) operable to transmit said selected amount of image data to an image display apparatus (See Col. 6, lines 47-48).

Referring to claim 20, the Watanabe reference discloses a recording medium (FIFO memory 14, in Figure 2) for recording said selected amount of image signal.

Referring to claim 21, the Watanabe reference discloses wherein said image data processing unit (DSP 13) is operable to convert said image signal to said selected amount of image data and to then record said selected amount of image data on said recording medium (FIFO memory 14) as shown in Figure 2.

Referring to claim 22, the Watanabe reference discloses a method for generating image data from an image captured (by camera unit 1) as an image signal, said image data to be displayed on an image display apparatus (the computer 3 includes a display 7 in Figure 1, or 22, 24 and 26 in Figure 5) having a capability of displaying an image consisting of no more than a maximum amount of image data (e.g., the Watanabe reference shows a example: the display 7 has resolution: 320x240 pixels and amount

Art Unit: 2615

of information of one pixel: 8bits, monochrome; and this means of the maximum amount of image data = $320 \times 240 \times 8 = 614400$ bits can be displayed on the display 7; see Col. 10, lines 46-54), said method comprising: converting said image signal to a selected amount of image data, said selected amount of image data having no greater than said maximum amount of image data (e.g., see Figure 6, from steps s53-s54, the DSP 13 in camera unit 1 performs a processing to reduced to one half of pixel number for the image signal and only the data of color G 8bits of the picked-up image signal is sent to the display device 7 for matching to the amount of information that can be displayed by the display device 7, See Col. 11, lines 12-29).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 6-11 and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Watanabe et al. U.S. Patent 6,642,958 in view of Safai et al. U.S. Patent 6,167,469.

Referring to claim 6, the Watanabe ('958) reference discloses all subject matter as discussed in respected claim 1, and the reference also show image data communication system has a wired connection (e.g., connection terminals 5 and 6 of the computer 3, and a camera interface 18 provided for external connection to the computer 3 by bi-directional arrow links as shown in Figures 1-2, this can be

considered as wired connection). However, the Watanabe ('958) reference does not explicitly show the image data communication system comprising a **wired network** for transmitting the selected amount of image data from the image pickup apparatus (camera unit 1) to the image display apparatus (display 7).

The Safai ('469) reference discloses in Figures 6-7, the image data communication system comprising a **wired network** and a wireless transmission path (e.g., the network can be any data communication network including **phone line** or wireless links, see Col. 13, lines 25-30 and Col. 18, lines 10-15) for transmitting image data from the image pickup apparatus (camera 100) to image display apparatus (display 712, printer 612 or computer server 610). The Safai ('469) reference is evidence that one of ordinary skill in the art at the time to see more advantages for the image data communication system having more flexible option to include any data communication networks so that can provide more services such as handle the a plurality of connections, communication protocols, storage or printing services, etc easily. For that reason, it would have been obvious to modify the system of Watanabe ('958) by providing a wired network or wireless links for transmitting the selected amount of image data from the image pickup apparatus to the image display apparatus as taught by Safai ('469).

Referring to claim 7, the combination of Watanabe ('958) and Safai ('469) discloses all subject matter as discussed in respected claim 6, However, the Watanabe ('958) reference does not explicitly show the selected amount of image data is output from said image pickup apparatus to said image storage server.

Art Unit: 2615

The Safai ('469) reference teaches an image storage server (server 601 coupled to a mass storage devices 614, see Col. 13, lines 31-32) connected to said wired network (telephone network), wherein said selected amount of image data (including photos, addresses, user information, etc.) is output from said image pickup apparatus (camera 100) to said image storage server (601) (See Col. 13, lines 65-67 and Col. 14, lines 1-25). The Safai ('469) reference is evidenced that one of ordinary skill in the art at the time to see more advantages for the image data can be download from the image pickup apparatus to a image storage server so that the selected amount of image data can be simultaneously sent to the a plurality of remote displays apparatus which connected on internet. For that reason, it would have been obvious to modify the system of Watanabe ('958) by providing a image storage server for receiving the selected amount of image data from the image pickup apparatus as taught by Safai ('469).

Referring to claim 8, the Watanabe ('958) and Safai ('469) reference discloses all subject matter as discussed in respected claim 7, and the Safai reference discloses image display apparatus downloads said selected amount of image data from said image storage server (e.g. the services 602 uploads the selected amount image data from camera 100 to designated storage serve or Web site, and the remote computer, PDA or display apparatus can download the image data form the server or Web site, see Col. 14, lines 59-67 and Col. 15, lines 1-10).

Referring to claim 9, the Watanabe ('958) reference discloses all subject matter as discussed in respected claim 1, and the reference also show image data communication system has a wired connection (e.g., connection terminals 5 and 6 of

Art Unit: 2615

the computer 3, and a camera interface 18 provided for external connection to the computer 3 by bi-directional arrow links as shown in Figures 1-2, this can be considered as wired connection). However, the reference does not explicitly show the image data communication system comprising a **wireless transmission path and a wired network** for transmitting the selected amount of image data from the image pickup apparatus (camera unit 1) to the image display apparatus (display 7).

The Safai ('469) reference teaches in Figures 6-7, the image data communication system comprising a **wired network** and a **wireless transmission path** (e.g., the network can be any data communication network including **phone line** or wireless links, see Col. 13, lines 25-30 and Col. 18, lines 10-15) for transmitting image data from the image pickup apparatus (camera 100) to image display apparatus (display 712, printer 612 or computer server 610). The Safai ('469) reference is evidence that one of ordinary skill in the art at the time to see more advantages for the image data communication system having more flexible option to include any data

communication networks so that can provide more services such as handle the a plurality of connections, communication protocols, storage or printing services, etc easily. For that reason, it would have been obvious to modify the system of Watanabe ('958) by providing a wireless transmission path and a wired network for transmitting the selected amount of image data from the image pickup apparatus to the image display apparatus as taught by Safai ('469).

Referring to claim 10, the combination of Watanabe ('958) and Safai ('469) discloses all subject matter as discussed in respected claim 9, However, the Watanabe

Art Unit: 2615

('958) reference does not explicitly show the selected amount of image data is output from said image pickup apparatus to said image storage server.

The Safai ('469) reference teaches an image storage server (server 601 coupled to a mass storage devices 614, see Col. 13, lines 31-32) connected to said wired network (telephone network), wherein said selected amount of image data (including photos, addresses, user information, etc.) is output from said image pickup apparatus (camera 100) to said image storage server (601) (See Col. 13, lines 65-67 and Col. 14, lines 1-25). The Safai ('469) reference is evidenced that one of ordinary skill in the art at the time to see more advantages for the image data can be download from the image pickup apparatus to a image storage server so that the selected amount of image data can be simultaneously sent to the a plurality of remote displays apparatus which connected on internet. For that reason, it would have been obvious to modify the system of Watanabe ('958) by providing a image storage server for receiving the selected amount of image data from the image pickup apparatus as taught by Safai ('469).

Referring to claim 11, the Watanabe and Safai reference discloses all subject matter as discussed in respected claim 10, and the Safai reference discloses image display apparatus downloads said selected amount of image data from said image storage server (e.g. the services 602 uploads the selected amount image data from camera 100 to designated storage serve or Web site, and the remote computer, PDA or display apparatus can download the image data form the server or Web site, see Col. 14, lines 59-67 and Col. 15, lines 1-10).

Referring to claim 17, the Watanabe ('958) reference discloses all subject matter as discussed in respected claim 15, and the reference also show image data communication system has a wired connection (e.g., connection terminals 5 and 6 of the computer 3, and a camera interface 18 provided for external connection to the computer 3 by bi-directional arrow links as shown in Figures 1-2, this can be considered as wired connection). However, the reference does not explicitly show the image data communication system comprising a **wireless transmission path and/or a wired network** for transmitting the selected amount of image data from the image pickup apparatus (camera unit 1) to the image display apparatus (display 7).

The Safai ('469) reference teaches in Figures 6-7, the image data communication system comprising a **wired network** and/or a **wireless transmission path** (e.g., the network can be any data communication network including **phone line** or wireless links, see Col. 13, lines 25-30 and Col. 18, lines 10-15) for transmitting image data from the image pickup apparatus (camera 100) to image display apparatus (display 712, printer 612 or computer server 610). The Safai ('469) reference is evidence that one of ordinary skill in the art at the time to see more advantages for the image data communication system having more flexible option to include any data communication networks so that can provide more services such as handle the a plurality of connections, communication protocols, storage or printing services, etc easily. For that reason, it would have been obvious to modify the system of Watanabe ('958) by providing a wireless transmission path and/or a wired network for transmitting the selected amount of image data from the image pickup apparatus to the image display apparatus as taught by Safai ('469).

Conclusion

5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

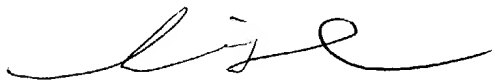
- a. Yoshida et al. U.S. 6,690,417 discloses a method for processing images comprises the communication party side can change to the high compression ration when the amount of image data exceeds the capability of storage in the reception side.
- b. Lightbody U.S. 5,471,577 discloses apparatus for displaying a reduced-size image in a window of the display of a host computer.
- c. Kim U.S. 6,278,884 discloses a communication apparatus connect to the camera.
- d. Miyake U.S. 5,631,701 discloses an image data transfer system including an electronic still camera separably connected to computer system.

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Lin Ye whose telephone number is (703) 305-3250. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Andrew B Christensen can be reached on (703) 308-9644. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Art Unit: 2615

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Lin Ye
October 12, 2004
